

appropriations bills are lined up together, excessive spending on things like sending Russian monkeys into space and massive out-dated water projects out West continues to drain the Treasury. I voted against this bill because I think we could have done a much better job at curbing unnecessary spending, government waste, and reducing the Federal deficit.

#### SENATOR BILL BRADLEY

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, nothing is typical about BILL BRADLEY, but some things are characteristic. As, for example, his article on the front page of the Washington Post's Outlook section this past Sunday. Just before the scheduled adjournment of the 104th Congress, bringing to an end for now his brilliant 18-year career as a U.S. Senator. The article is characteristically bipartisan: "It's Government by Tax Break Again: Clinton and Dole Should Be Talking About Fairness and Loopholes, Not Cuts and Credits." It is our pleasant custom to ask that such articles be reprinted in the RECORD, and I make that request, with the text to be placed at the conclusion of my remarks. But the Senate will take the meaning from the title. BILL BRADLEY harkens back to the great 1986 tax reform bill, of which he, above all his colleagues, conceived, inspired, and helped to enactment. The principles were simple. First of all, above all, simplify. Two low rates. In that sense, cutting taxes. But paying for the lower rates by closing loopholes in the existing code which had accreted like a coral reef as Congress after Congress responded to the tiny this and the tiny that special interest, until a vast barrier separated the privileged from the people. I happened to be one of the core group that put together this legislation. We would meet early each morning in the office of Senator Bob Packwood, who was then chairman of the Finance Committee. My informal task was to provide a brief inspirational reading as the meeting commenced. It was then a simple task. I would simply glance through the previous day's Wall Street Journal looking for the best advertisement.

Typically, it would have a headline: "Guaranteed Losses" In finer print one would learn that a sheep ranch in Idaho, an alligator ranch in Florida, an ostrich ranch in Kansas would assure investors immediate losses that could be offset against other income, which losses would be recouped at some future date. And that was where entrepreneurial energy was flowing. To guarantee losses that the Internal Revenue Code would turn into profits. BILL BRADLEY changed that. But the work is never done, and so he leaves us still talking the responsibilities of citizenship and legislation.

I will miss him as perhaps few others. We have served 18 years together on the Finance Committee. He has taught me; I have learned from him and fol-

lowed him. And will continue to do so. Just last week, the Finance Committee convened for its last meeting of this Congress. BILL was asked to say a few words; which was all he ever will do. He recalled that in 1978 I came down to Princeton, NJ to campaign with him in that first campaign for the Senate. In the course of our stumping about, I urged him to try to get onto the Finance Committee, where so very much of the critical issues of American life are decided. He did and he showed why. I then recalled a passage from Woodrow Wilson at the time he was president of Princeton University. A student of the Presidency, Wilson was watching the growing intensity of presidential campaigns. Candidates did not, of course, did not then go to the conventions that nominated them, but after nomination were getting into the business of making speeches from the rear of railroad trains and all manner of stressful campaigning. Wilson wrote that if this should continue, we would be reduced to choosing our Chief Executives from "among wise and prudent athletes: a small class." I thought that then; I think it now, as we say farewell to BILL BRADLEY—for now.

#### TRIBUTE TO DIANE BALAMOTI AND TERESA BRELAND

Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, on several occasions over the past few days, I have taken the floor to express my appreciation to my fine staff for their loyal service to me and the committee over the years. Today, I want to say thank you to two staff members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Diane Balamoti has been with the committee since 1987. During this period she has served as the staff assistant to the Park and Public Lands Subcommittee. As many of my colleagues know, this subcommittee has always been one of the most active and prolific subcommittees in the Senate. During her 10 years with the committee, Diane has staffed countless hearings and business meetings and assisted in the preparation of bills, statements, and the drafting of committee reports. She has kept the subcommittee's voluminous bills files and tracked the work of the subcommittee through the Senate and House. Diane possesses truly outstanding clerical skills which are often tested, especially at the end of a Congress when the pace of the committee's business always quickens. Ms. Balamoti has been a dependable, productive, and important member of our committee staff for many years and I want her to know how much I appreciate her service to me and the country.

In addition, Mr. President, I want to thank Teresa Breland, the newest full time staff member on the Energy Committee minority staff. Terri, who has been with us slightly over a year, has served as our receptionist in the minority office and has more recently been the assistant to our staff director for

the minority, Ben Cooper. Mr. President, Terri is one of those dedicated public servants who puts in a full day's work on the Hill and then goes to school at night. She is just about to finish her master's degree in psychology and I commend her for a job well done.

#### BIF/SAIF

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, would the Chairman yield for the purposes of a brief colloquy to clarify a provision of the banking title to H.R. 3610, the omnibus appropriations bill, addressing the Bank Insurance Fund and the Savings Association Insurance Fund?

Mr. D'AMATO. I would be happy to yield to the Senator from California.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Am I correct that the new prohibition on deposit shifting set forth in section 2703(d) of the bill, if not carefully applied by the federal bank regulators, could raise serious issues of interference with first amendment rights of free speech?

Mr. D'AMATO. We share the Senator's concern. In response, let me say that it is not our intent that the regulators implement the deposit shifting provision in a way that would raise constitutional free speech issues. The Supreme Court has made it clear that the first amendment protections do indeed extend to lawful and accurate business communications and we expect the regulators to abide by these decisions.

#### PARKS OMNIBUS LEGISLATION UPDATE

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I want to assure my colleagues that we are continuing to have discussions with the administration relative to the disposition of the parks omnibus bill, and I hope that those bear some meaningful resolve before the day is out. Those discussions are going on now, and, I might say, Mr. President, I am somewhat encouraged, but I have been at that stage before, as well.

I know there is a lot of interest in it, and I want to at least advise my colleagues of the current status. It has been somewhat like how I would envision a Chinese torture chamber might be, had I ever been exposed to one—and perhaps I have been exposed to one and just do not know it.

In any event, the ultimate outcome of this still depends on the administration recognizing that we need some assurance on timber supply to supply our three existing operating sawmills in our State, and hopefully provide enough for the fourth one that has been shut down for 2 years. That is where we are on the issue of resolving our differences.

There are other differences. In fact, the State of Colorado, particularly, and the State of Virginia, we appear to be working some of those issues out, as well. Of course, it would require a process of amending the House bill which is